

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A client for use in a television system, wherein the client is located in a television viewer home and comprises:
 - 5 a receiver configured to receive a programming signal;
 - an interface configured to communicate with a secondary device; and
 - a transcode subsystem coupled to the receiver and the interface, wherein the transcode subsystem is configured to:
 - detect received data;
 - 10 determine a target secondary device of the received data;
 - determine a target data format corresponding to the target secondary device; and
 - initiate transcoding of the received data to the target data format.
- 15 2. The client of claim 1, wherein the transcode subsystem includes a config table configured to associate the secondary device with the target data format.
3. The client of claim 2, wherein the transcode subsystem comprises a control unit configured to access the config table to determine the target data format.
- 20 4. The client of claim 1, wherein the transcode subsystem comprises a transcode subunit configured to perform the transcoding.
5. The client of claim 4, wherein the transcode subsystem further comprises a second transcode subunit configured to transcode data to a second data format.
- 25 6. The client of claim 2, wherein the transcode subsystem is configured to:

100-200-300-400-500

detect an additional secondary device; and
register the additional secondary device.

7. The client of claim 6, wherein registering the additional secondary device
5 comprises storing an entry corresponding to the secondary device in the config table,
wherein the entry indicates the corresponding target data format.

8. The client of claim 1, wherein the transcode subsystem is further configured to:

10 detect a second received data conveyed via the programming signal; and
discard the second received data in response to detecting a target data format of
the second received data is not supported.

9. The client of claim 1, wherein the transcode subsystem is further configured to:
15 detect a communication from an unregistered secondary device; and
register the unregistered secondary device in response to determining the
transcode subsystem is configured to support a data format corresponding
to the unregistered secondary device.
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10. The client of claim 9, wherein the transcode subsystem is further configured to:
convey a request for a transcode subunit corresponding to the data format of the
unregistered secondary device, in response to determining the transcode
25 subsystem is not configured to support the data format corresponding to
the unregistered secondary device.

11. The client of claim 1, wherein the client comprises a set-top box.

12. The client of claim 1, wherein the client is further configured to:
receive a first request from the secondary device for remote data; and
generate a second request corresponding to said first request, wherein said second
5 request does not include an indication of a data format required by said
secondary device.

13. A method for transcoding in a television receiver located in a viewer home, the
10 method comprising:

detecting a received data in a first format;
determining a target secondary device corresponding to the received data;
determining a target data format different from said first format corresponding to
15 the target secondary device; and
transcoding the received data to the target data format.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising accessing a config table to determine
the target data format.
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15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

detecting an additional secondary device; and
registering the additional secondary device.
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16. The method of claim 15, wherein registering the secondary device comprises
storing an entry corresponding to the additional secondary device in the config table,
wherein the entry indicates a data format corresponding to the additional secondary

device.

17. The method of claim 13, further comprising:

5 detecting a second received data; and
discarding the second received data in response to determining a target data
format of the second received data is not supported.

18. The method of claim 13, further comprising:

10 detecting a communication from an unregistered secondary device; and
registering the unregistered secondary device in response to determining the
transcode subsystem is configured to support a data format corresponding
to the unregistered secondary device.

15 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising:

20 conveying a request for a transcode subunit corresponding to the data format of
the unregistered secondary device, in response to determining the
transcode subsystem is not configured to support the data format
corresponding to the unregistered secondary device.

25 20. A television system comprising:

a first source for conveying a programming signal;
a proxy receiver configured to receive the programming signal, wherein the proxy
receiver is located in a viewer home; and

a secondary device coupled to the proxy receiver, wherein said secondary device
is configured to utilize data in a first format;
wherein the proxy receiver is configured to:
 detect received data in a second format;
5 determine the secondary device is a target of the received data;
 determine a target data format corresponding to the secondary device,
 wherein said target data format corresponds to said first format;
 and
 initiate transcoding of the received data to the target data format.

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21. The television system of claim 20, wherein the proxy receiver is configured to
access a config table to determine the target data format.

22. The television system of claim 21, wherein the proxy receiver is configured to:

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 detect an additional secondary device; and
 register the additional secondary device.

23. The television system of claim 22, wherein registering the additional secondary
20 device comprises storing an entry corresponding to the secondary device in the config
table, wherein the entry indicates an association between the corresponding target data
format and the additional secondary device.

24. The television system of claim 20, wherein the proxy receiver is further
25 configured to:

 detect a second received data; and
 discard the second received data in response to detecting a target data format of

the second received data is not supported by the proxy receiver.

25. The television system of claim 20, wherein the proxy receiver is further configured to:

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detect a communication from an unregistered secondary device; and register the unregistered secondary device in response to determining the proxy receiver is configured to support a data format corresponding to the unregistered secondary device.

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26. The television system of claim 25, wherein the proxy receiver is further configured to:

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convey a request for a transcode subunit corresponding to the data format of the unregistered secondary device, in response to detecting a communication from an unregistered secondary device and determining the proxy receiver is not configured to support the data format corresponding to the unregistered secondary device.

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27. The television system of claim 20, wherein said proxy receiver is configured to: receive a first request from said secondary device corresponding to said received data;

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convey a second request to said first source in response to detecting said first request, wherein said second request does not include an indication of said first format;

wherein said received data is responsive to said second request.